

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 04541 081136 Z

45

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EUR-25 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 SCEM-02

TRSE-00 AID-20 NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-08

OMB-01 CEA-02 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 RSR-01 /148 W

----- 003391

R 080900 Z MAY 73

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6894

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 4541

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG CH CA

SUBJECT: CANADIAN PETROLEUM MISSION TO CHINA

REF: HONG KONG A-75

SUMMARY: ALTHOUGH THE CANADIAN PETROLEUM MISSION RECEIVED HIGH LEVEL ATTENTION DURING ITS TWO WEEK VISIT TO CHINA, IT APPARENTLY DID NOT CONCLUDE ANY SIGNIFICANT AGREEMENTS. ACCORDING TO A CANADIAN SOURCE, THE MEMBERS OF THE MISSION NEVERTHELESS WERE VERY PLEASED WITH THE RESULTS AND SOME OF THEM PLAN TO RETURN TO CHINA IN THE NEAR FUTURE.
END SUMMARY

1. THE CANADIAN PETROLEUM MISSION COMPLETED ITS VISIT TO CHINA MAY 6 AND MOST OF THE MEMBERS HAVE GONE ON TO JAPAN EN ROUTE HOME. WHILE IN PEKING, THE MISSION CALLED ON PREMIER CHOU EN-LAI, THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE PAI HSIANG-KUO AND VICE MINISTER OF FUEL AND CHEMICAL INDUSTRY TANG KE. NCNA ALSO REPORTED THAT THE CANADIAN MISSION HAD VISITED " OIL FIELDS, PETRO-CHEMICAL WORKS, A PETRO-MACHINERY PLANT, OTHER FACTORIES, PEOPLE'S
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COMMUNES AND PLACES OF INTEREST." ON MAY 7 THE HONG KONG PRESS REPORTED THE COMMENTS OF MR. R. HEAD, THE ASSISTANT DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE, WHO RETURNED TO HONG KONG FROM CHINA THE DAY BEFORE. MR. HEAD SAID THAT THE CANADIAN TEAM WAS THE FIRST WESTERN GROUP TO VISIT THE TACHING OIL FIELD, NEAR HARBIN, IN NORTH-EAST CHINA. HE SAID THE VISIT HAD BEEN DESIGNED TO OBTAIN A BETTER ASSESSMENT OF CHINA'S PETROLEUM POTENTIAL AND TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF SALE OF CANADIAN OIL DRILLING EQUIPMENT. HE ADDED THAT THE MISSION HAD ESTABLISHED MANY VALUABLE CONTACTS WHICH WOULD BE FOLLOWED UP BY FURTHER VISITS BUT THAT NO CONTRACTS HAD BEEN SIGNED DURING THE TRIP.

2. A CANADIAN COMMISSION SOURCE TOLD THE CONGEN MAY 8 THAT THE CANADIAN MISSION HAD BEEN VERY PLEASED WITH THEIR VISIT. LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE HAD BEEN SHOWN TO THEM IN THE NORTHEAST ASIDE FROM TACHING, THE TOUR IN THAT AREA TENDED TO BE MAINLY POLITICAL IN TONE, AND THE CHINESE HAD MADE IT PLAIN THAT THEY WERE NOT INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING POSSIBLE CO- PRODUCTION SCHEMES. MUCH OF THE VISIT HAD BEEN TAKEN UP IN VISITS TO LOCAL POINTS OF INTEREST, E. G. A TUNNEL UNDER THE RIVER IN SHANGHAI AND AN AIR RAID SHELTER IN PEKING. NEVERTHELESS, THERE HAD BEEN USEFUL EXCHANGE OF TECHNOLOGICAL INFORMATION DURING MEETINGS IN PEKING AND ONE SMALL CONTRACT FOR GEOPHYSICAL EQUIPMENT WAS CONCLUDED BY ONE OF THE FIRMS WHICH HAD ALREADY VISITED THE PRC TWICE BEFORE. HE CONFIRMED THAT SEVERAL OF THE FIRMS ANTICIPATED THAT THEY WOULD RETURN TO CHINA IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO PURSUE DISCUSSIONS INITIATED DURING THE VISIT.

OSBORN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: <CONCATENATED>
Draft Date: 08 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 HONG KONG A-75
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08-Aug-2001 by boyleja>; APPROVED <24-Aug-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 971219
Subject: CANADIAN PETROLEUM MISSION TO CHINA
TAGS: ENRG, CA, CH
To: EA
SECSTATE WASHDC
TOKYO
USLO PEKING
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005